GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1640
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
AVAILABILITY OF CONDOMS
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the rural people are still unaware of the use of contraceptive to check population growth in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure easily availability of contraceptives (condoms) to the rural people?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) Lack of awareness/knowledge of contraceptive can be a major obstacle to their use. As per National Family Health Survey Phase-II, there is a large difference in the level of knowledge on spacing methods between rural and urban women. 75% of rural women know about contraceptive pills whereas 92% of the urban women know about them. In case of IUD and condoms 88% urban women and only 65% of rural women know about it. As far as male sterilization is concerned only 88% rural women and 94% urban women have a knowledge of the same.

(b)
(i) There is a system of procurement of condoms centrally and supplying of these to the State Governments under free supply scheme. The supply of condoms throughout the country is the responsibility of State Governments.State Governments supply them through health care infrastructure namely, Sub-Centres, PHCs and CHCs.

(ii) Department of Family Welfare also makes available condoms at highly subsidized prices through social marketing organizations.

(iii) A Community Based Distribution (CBD) system is created at village level to address 100% need of condoms in the demographically weak states.